

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 992

By Trail

A RESOLUTION to congratulate the Franklin Road Christian School girls' basketball team on winning the Tennessee Athletic Association of Christian Schools 2004 girls' basketball championship.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those gifted student-athletes who, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this State; and

WHEREAS, the girls' basketball team at Franklin Road Christian School is comprised of such estimable Tennesseans who won the 2004 Tennessee Athletic Association of Christian Schools State Championship; and

WHEREAS, through diligence, dedication, and hard work, they maximized their considerable talents and have reached the pinnacle of high school athletics; and

WHEREAS, after beginning their season with a disappointing overtime loss, the Lady Minutemen reassessed their approach to games and reeled off 26 successive wins to claim the school's first Tennessee Athletic Association of Christian Schools (TAACS) girls' state basketball championship; and

WHEREAS, the Lady Minutemen are comprised in part of a quartet of Sophomores, Melissa Beech, Jami Higgs, Stevie Harris and Sherri Graby, who have amassed a 76-2 record since they began playing entire games at their school in junior high; they lost once in the seventh grade, went undefeated as eighth graders and as Freshmen on the junior varsity team, but were unable to play full varsity games last year because they split time on the junior varsity and varsity teams as Freshmen; and

WHEREAS, during the past season the four Sophomores and Junior Rachel Clement teamed up to constitute the championship team; having lost in the first round of the TAACS

tournament in 2003, the team members listened to Coach Rogers' counsel to take games one at a time and as a consequence, they were triumphant; and

WHEREAS, the young ladies who claimed the 2004 title were Lindsay Harmon, Sherri Graby, Jami Higgs, Stevie Harris, Melissa Beech, Mary Floyd, Kayla Mills, Lisa Higgs, Laura Bailey, Rachel Clement, Jill Farmer, and Valerie Stiles; and

WHEREAS, Rachel Clement was the team's leading scorer with a 15 points per game average, and all five starters return next year; and

WHEREAS, the team was ably guided by highly regarded Head Coach Danny Rogers and Assistant Coach Phil Rogers, who helped precipitate the team's unrivalled success by sharing their deep love and great knowledge of the sport; and

WHEREAS, the ladies of Franklin Road Christian School have ensured that they will be forever remembered as the first of their school's girls' basketball teams ever to win the TAACS state girls' basketball championship; and

WHEREAS, these ladies epitomize all that is good in today's student-athlete, as they have achieved the highest level of success in sports, while evidencing the most circumspect character both on and off the court; and

WHEREAS, the dedication, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of young student-athletes not only made possible a championship basketball season, but also surely bode well for their success in every future endeavor; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud the 2004 Franklin Road Christian School Lady Minutemen for their singular success on the court and for serving as a fine example of the high quality of Tennessee's youth; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we join the administration, faculty, staff, students, and fans of Franklin Road Christian School in celebrating the Lady Minutemen's 2004 TAACS state girls' basketball championship and honor and commend the talented ladies who achieved this supreme success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we wish them much continued success and happiness in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.